

CHEMF-202.2 DIV (10025193)

N THE CHITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Boryta, et al.

09/707,427

Filed

Novemner 7, 2000

For

RECOVERY OF LITHIUM COMPOUNDS FROM

BRINES

Examiner

Not yet assigned

GAU.

1754

March 25, 2003

RECEIVED

APR 0 2 2003

and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231 Box Missing Parts

Commissioner of Patents

GROUP 1700

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Add the following new claims:

- 6. An apparatus for continuously purifying lithium carbonate comprising:
- a dissolver which is a baffled reactor to dissolve lithium carbonate that includes a mixer/disperser,
 - a carbon dioxide gas dispersion tube,
 - a wash water filtrate/mother liquor filtrate recycle line,
 - a cooler,
- a stilling well to separate gas and undissolved lithium carbonate solids from the resultant lithium bicarbonate solution, and